

In re Patent Application of:

PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.

Serial No. **10/764,350**

Filed: **JANUARY 23, 2004**

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A folding knife comprising:

a handle;

a blade rotatably connected to said handle and moveable between an opened position and a closed position, said blade having a first lock member receiving recess defined by a bottom wall and first and second opposing sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member receiving recess adjacent the first lock member receiving recess and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom;

a lock bar pivotally connected to said handle and comprising a first lock member defined by a bottom wall and first and second sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member adjacent the first lock member and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom, said lock bar being movable between an engaged position and a disengaged position so that a portion of the first sidewall of the first lock member contacts a portion of the first sidewall of the first lock member recess to define a contact point between said lock bar and said blade when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position; and

a lock pin connected to said handle adjacent said first and second lock members so that when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position, said lock pin contacts the second sidewall of said first lock member and the bottom wall of the second lock member receiving recess.

2. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein the bottom wall and sidewall of said second lock member are spaced apart from the bottom wall and sidewall of the second

In re Patent Application of:
PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.
Serial No. **10/764,350**
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lock member receiving recess when said lock bar is in the engaged position.

3. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from said lock pin when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position.

4. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from the sidewall of said second lock member when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position.

5. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 further comprising a blade connecting member connected to said handle; and wherein said blade has a blade connecting member passageway for receiving said blade connecting member to thereby rotatably connect said blade to said handle.

6. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 further comprising a lock bar connecting member connected to said handle; and wherein said lock bar has a lock bar connecting member passageway formed therein for receiving said lock bar connecting member to thereby pivotally connect said lock bar to said handle.

7. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 further comprising a lock bar spring member connected to said handle to engage a portion of said lock bar.

In re Patent Application of:
PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.
Serial No. **10/764,350**
Filed: **JANUARY 23, 2004**

8. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein the first lock member receiving recess is U-shaped; and wherein the second lock member receiving recess is L-shaped.

9. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein said blade comprises an upper edge, and a sharpened lower edge.

10. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 9 wherein said sharpened lower edge is adjacent a lower edge of said lock bar when said blade is in the closed position.

11. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 1 wherein said handle has a distal portion and a proximal portion having a recess formed therein.

12. (Currently Amended) A folding knife comprising:
a handle having a distal portion and a proximal portion, the proximal portion having a recess formed therein;
a blade rotatably connected to the distal portion of said handle and moveable between an opened position and a closed position, said blade having ~~at least one lock member receiving recess formed therein and comprising~~ an upper edge and a lower sharpened edge, a first lock member receiving recess defined by a bottom wall and first and second opposing sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member receiving recess adjacent the first lock member receiving recess and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom;
a lock bar pivotally connected to a medial portion of said handle and moveable between an engaged position and a disengaged position, said lock bar comprising a first lock member

In re Patent Application of:

PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.

Serial No. **10/764,350**

Filed: **JANUARY 23, 2004**

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defined by a bottom wall and first and second sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member adjacent the first lock member and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom at least one lock member, a portion of which contacts a respective portion of said blade adjacent the at least one lock member receiving recess to thereby define a contact point between said lock member and said blade when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position; and

a lock pin connected to said handle adjacent said at least one lock member;

wherein the bottom wall and sidewall of the second lock member are spaced apart from the bottom wall and sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess when said lock is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position, and wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from said lock pin when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A folding knife according to Claim ~~15~~ 12 wherein said lock pin is connected to said handle adjacent said first and second lock members so that when said blade is in the opened position said lock pin contacts the second sidewall of the first lock member and the bottom wall of the second lock member receiving recess.

In re Patent Application of:

PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.

Serial No. **10/764,350**

Filed: **JANUARY 23, 2004**

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A folding knife according to Claim ~~14~~ 12 wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from said sidewall of said second lock member when said blade is in the opened position and said lock bar is in the engaged position.

19. (Original) A folding knife according to Claim 12 further comprising a lock bar spring member connected to said handle to engage a portion of said lock bar.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for locking a folding knife in an opened position, the folding knife comprising a handle, a blade rotatably connected to the handle, the blade including a first lock member receiving recess defined by a bottom wall and first and second opposing sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member receiving recess adjacent the first lock member receiving recess and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom ~~having at least one lock member receiving recess,~~ a lock bar pivotally connected to the handle and moveable between an engaged position and a disengaged position, the lock bar comprising a first lock member defined by a bottom wall and first and second sidewalls extending upwardly therefrom, and a second lock member adjacent the first lock member and defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall extending upwardly therefrom ~~at least one lock member,~~ and a lock pin connected to the handle adjacent the at least one lock member, and wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from the lock pin when the blade

In re Patent Application of:
PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.
Serial No. **10/764,350**
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is in the opened position and the lock bar is in the engaged position, the method comprising:

moving the blade to the opened position; and

moving the lock bar to the engaged position so that a portion of the at least one lock member contacts a respective portion of the blade adjacent the at least one lock member recess to thereby define a contact point between the lock member and the blade when the blade is in the opened position.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the bottom wall and sidewall of the second lock member are spaced apart from the bottom wall and sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess when the blade is in the opened position and the lock bar is in the engaged position.

24. (Original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the lock pin is connected to the handle adjacent the first and second lock members so that when the blade is in the opened position the lock pin contacts the second sidewall of the first lock member and the bottom wall of the second lock member receiving recess.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the sidewall of the second lock member receiving recess is spaced apart from the sidewall of the second lock member when the blade is in the opened position.

In re Patent Application of:

PERMAR, JOHN W., Jr.

Serial No. **10/764,350**

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27. (Original) A method according to Claim 20 wherein moving the lock bar to the locked position further comprises engaging the lock bar with a lock bar spring member connected to the handle.